

Page 27, line 3, change "59" to --159--.

Page 40, lines 1 and 2, change "WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS:" to --WE CLAIM:--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 65-69, 71-74, 80, 87-88, 91, 93, and 100 as follows:

~~69.~~ (Amended) A remote power meter monitoring system, comprising:

a multiplicity of radio frequency transmit-only devices configured to transmit information, each radio frequency transmit-only device comprising,

a timer comprising a memory that holds a pseudo random time interval value, said timer configured to autonomously initiate transmission of said information after expiration of a time duration corresponding to said pseudo random time interval value held in said memory,

a pseudo-randomization means for generating and loading said pseudo random time interval value into said timer, and

a retransmission means for redundantly transmitting said information a predetermined number of times;

at least one sensing element configured to provide sensor data to said radio frequency transmit-only device, said transmitted information comprising said sensor data, an identification address being assigned to said radio frequency transmit-only device to which the sensor data is provided, and error detection code bits;

at least two receivers each [configured] capable of configuration to receive said transmitted information, and [configured to validate] validation of said information based on said identification address and said error detection code bits contained in said transmitted

information, said receivers providing redundant reception of said transmitted information;
and

a monitoring means for monitoring said information as received and validated by at least one of said receivers.

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~~66.~~ (Amended) A remote power meter monitoring system, comprising:

a multiplicity of radio frequency transmit-only devices configured to transmit information in a direct sequence spread spectrum signal at plural frequencies, each radio frequency transmit-only device comprising,

a processor configured to generate said information to be transmitted,

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Cont. a crystal oscillator configured to generate spread spectrum timing for said information generated by said processor,

a timer configured to hold a pseudo random time interval value, said timer configured to initiate transmission of said information after expiration of a time duration corresponding to said pseudo random time interval value,

a pseudo-randomization means for generating and loading said pseudo random time interval value into said timer,

a retransmission means for redundantly transmitting said information a predetermined number of times, and

a wake-up circuit configured to initiate said crystal oscillator and said processor in respective active states upon expiration of said time duration so as to transmit said information, and configured to place said crystal oscillator and said processor in a reduced current state between transmissions;

at least one sensing element configured to provide sensor data to said radio frequency transmit-only device, said transmitted information comprising said sensor data, an

identification address being assigned to said radio frequency transmit-only device to which the sensor data is provided, and error detection code bits;

at least two receivers each [configured] ~~capable of configuration~~ to receive said transmitted information, and [configured to validate] ~~validation of~~ said information based on said identification address and said error detection code bits contained in said transmitted information, said receivers providing redundant reception of said transmitted information; and

a monitoring means for monitoring said information as received and validated by at least one of said receivers.

Claim 67, line 28, change "configured" to --configurable--; and
line 29, change "configured" to --configurable--.

Claim 68, line 28, change "configured" to --configurable--; and
line 29, change "configured" to --configurable--.

Claim 69, line 27 change "configured" to --configurable--; and
line 28, change "configured" to --configurable--.

Claim 71, line 1, change "66" to --65--.

~~72.~~ (Amended) The system according to Claims ~~67, 68,~~^{3 4 5} or ~~69,~~⁵ [or 70,] wherein [a] the chip code sequence used to produce said preamble [is] ~~being~~ a same sequence as a data bearing chip code sequence.

Claim 73, line 3, after "information" insert --in a message --; and
line 9, change "interval" to --duration--.

~~74.~~¹⁰ (Amended). A remote power meter monitoring system, comprising:

a multiplicity of radio frequency transmit-only devices configured to transmit information in a direct sequence spread spectrum signal at plural frequencies, each radio frequency transmit-only device comprising,

a processor configured to generate said information to be transmitted,
a crystal oscillator configured to generate spread spectrum timing for
said information generated by said processor,

a timer configured to initiate transmission of said information after
expiration of a time duration,

a retransmission means for redundantly transmitting said information a
predetermined number of times,

a pseudo-randomization means for randomizing the time interval
between redundant transmissions,

[a processor configured to generate said information to be transmitted,
a crystal oscillator configured to generate spread spectrum timing for
said information generated by said processor,]

a carrier generator mechanism configured to generate a carrier on
which said information to be transmitted is modulated, and

a wake-up circuit configured to initiate said crystal oscillator and said
carrier generator mechanism in respective active states upon expiration of said time duration
so as to transmit said information, and configured to place said crystal oscillator and said
carrier generator mechanism in a reduced current state between transmissions, said
information being transmitted after a predetermined delay with respect to when said crystal
oscillator and said carrier generator mechanism are placed in said respective active states so
as to allow for stabilization in said carrier generator mechanism and said crystal oscillator
prior to information transmission;

at least one sensing element configured to provide sensor data to said radio frequency
transmit-only device, said transmitted information comprising said sensor data, an

identification address being assigned to said radio frequency transmit-only device to which the sensor data is provided, and error detection code bits;

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a receiver configured to receive said transmitted information, and configured to validate said information based on said identification address and said error detection code bits contained in said transmitted information; and

a monitoring means for monitoring said information as received and validated by said receiver.

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86. (Amended). The system according to Claims ~~65~~, [66,] ~~67, 68, or 69~~, ^{1 3 4 5} 70, 73, 74, 75, 76, or 77,] wherein said radio frequency transmit-only device further comprises:

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a processor configured to generate said information to be transmitted; and
a wake-up circuit that maintains said processor in a reduced current state between transmissions, and upon expiration of said time duration, as determined by said timer, places said processor in a normal operational state.

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87. (Amended). A remote power meter monitoring method, comprising the steps of:

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retrieving data from a sensing element;
generating information containing the retrieved data, comprising,
generating an identification address field for holding an identification address corresponding to a transmit-only device, and
generating an error correction code;
transmitting the generated information, redundantly at pseudo random intervals from said transmit-only device, comprising,
loading a timer with a pseudo random time interval value,
enabling, upon expiration of said pseudo random time interval value as
timed by said timer, a crystal oscillator used to generate spread spectrum timing signals, a transmitter oscillator used to generate transmission signals,

delaying information transmission for a predetermined time period,
relative to said expiration of said pseudo random time interval value, to allow for stabilization
of said crystal oscillator and said transmitter oscillator,

transmitting a preamble portion of said information used for spread
spectrum timing synchronization, said preamble having a length in bit times at least equal to
a number of chips in a chip code sequence used in direct sequence spread spectrum format by
said transmit-only device,

transmitting the generated information in said direct sequence spread
spectrum format based upon said chip code sequence and said spread spectrum timing signals
at a predetermined frequency by said transmit-only device,

disabling said crystal oscillator and said transmitter oscillator, so as to
conserve power;

repeating said step of transmitting said generated information redundantly after a
pseudo random interval of time so as to provide information transmission redundancy;

receiving the generated information by at least one receiver;

validating the received information based on said identification address and said error
correction code;

transferring the validated information to a monitoring mechanism; and

monitoring the received data in the validated information with the monitoring

mechanism. ~~4~~

Claim 88, line 4, change "Mc/s to 1.3 Mc/s" to --MHz to 1.3 MHz--.

Claim 91, line 9, change "said pseudo" to --a pseudo--.

Claim 93, line 15, change "said pseudo" to --a pseudo--.

Claim 100, line 4, change "said RF" to --said radio frequency--.

Please add new Claims 102 and 103 as follows: